IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

1613

Applicant Filed

09/774.284 Nochumson 01/29/2001

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1623

Examiner

Howard Owens Jr.

Docket No.

213-0060US

Customer No.

25746

Commissioner for Patents

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sirs and Mesdames:

Applicant desires to bring to the attention of the Examiner the following references listed on the attached Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO 1449. A copy of each of the references is enclosed in compliance with 37 CFR § 1.97 and 1.98. Submission of this Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(a) exists. This submission is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein is "prior art" to the invention disclosed unless specifically so designated. The right is reserved to antedate any item under 37 C.F.R. 1.131.

- No fee is required as the present Information Disclosure Statement submitted under 37 CFR §1.97(b) is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last.
- The present Information Disclosure Statement submitted under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c) is being filed after \boxtimes three months of the filing of a national application or after the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurred last but before the mailing date of either:
 - 1. a Final Action under 37 C.F.R. 1.113, or
 - 2. a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. 1.311, whichever occurs first.

Also submitted herewith is:

a statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. 1.97 (e): OR

a fee transmittal authorizing debit of Deposit Account No. 50-1922 in the amount of \$180 as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17 (p) for submission of an Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c).

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